

CLERK, U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

ENTERED

THE DATE OF ENTRY IS ON THE COURT'S DOCKET

The following constitutes the ruling of the court and has the force and effect therein described.

Signed September 2, 2025

United States Bankruptcy Judge

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AMARILLO DIVISION

IN RE: MCCLAIN FEED YARD, INC., MCCLAIN FARMS, INC., AND 7M CATTLE FEEDERS, INC., Debtors. ¹	Chapter 7 CASE NO. 23-20084-swe Jointly Administered
KENT RIES, CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE FOR THE BANKRUPTCY ESTATES OF MCCLAIN FEED YARD, INC., MCCLAIN FARMS, INC., AND 7M CATTLE FEEDERS, INC., Plaintiff, v. COMMUNITY FINANCIAL SERVICES BANK; HTLF BANK; MECHANICS BANK; and RABO AGRIFINANCE, LLC, Defendants.	ADV. PROC. NO. 25-02005-swe Honorable Scott. W. Everett

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 7 cases are: McClain Feed Yard, Inc. (Case No. 23-20084-swe), McClain Farms, Inc. (Case No. 23-20085-swe), and 7M Cattle Feeders, Inc. (Case No. 23-20086-swe).

ORDER CONSOLIDATING ADVERSARY PROCEEDING No. 25-02005 INTO ADVERSARY PROCEEDING 24-02007

At the July 17, 2025, hearing on the Trustee's Motion to Intervene [ECF No. 140], during which the Court allowed the Trustee to intervene [ECF No. 201], the Court raised the possibility of consolidating this proceeding with the Trustee's separate proceeding, then-pending as adversary number 25-02005 (the "Trustee's Lawsuit"). Following the hearing, at the Court's request, the Trustee electronically filed a *Notice of Joint Status Conference* in this case [ECF No. 199] and in proceeding no. 25-02005 [see ECF No. 68] (the "Notice"). The Notice explained there would be a "joint status conference" in both proceedings on July 28, 2025, specifically "to discuss: . . . 2. Potential consolidation of [the] adversary proceeding[s]" *Id*.

The Court has the authority under Rule 42(a) to consolidate cases *sua sponte*. Lester v. Exxon Mobil Corp., 879 F.3d 582, 592 (5th Cir. 2018). When determining whether to consolidate cases, the Court considers whether the cases involve (1) the same court and (2) common parties, as well as (3) the risk of prejudice or confusion from consolidation; (4) risk of inconsistent rulings if cases remain separate; (5) efficiency; and (6) whether the cases are at the same stage of preparation. *See id*.

At the July 28, 2025, status conference, counsel for all four defendants in the Trustee's lawsuit, Community Financial Services Bank ("CFSB"), HTLF Bank ("HTLF"), Mechanics Bank ("Mechanics"), and Rabo AgriFinance, LLC ("Rabo"), counsel for the Trustee, and counsel for the majority of plaintiffs and intervenors in this proceeding appeared; no counsel notified the Court of their unavailability prior to the hearing. Only one party, CFSB, opposed consolidating the two proceedings. Based upon the arguments of counsel and prior record in this case, the Court found that sufficient grounds exist to support consolidation.²

It is **THEREFORE ORDERED** that the Trustee's Lawsuit, Adversary No. 25-02005-swe, is hereby consolidated into Adversary No. 24-02007-swe.

² The Court incorporates its findings and other statements from the hearing as if set forth fully herein.

It is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the consolidated proceeding described above shall retain Adversary No. 24-02007-swe.

It is **FURTHER ORDERED** that the caption in all pleadings and orders filed in this proceeding shall read as appears below on this Order:

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AMARILLO DIVISION

In re:	S	
	\S	Case No. 23-20084-swe7
McClain Feed Yard, Inc., et al.,	S	Jointly Administered
	S	
Debtors.	S	
	8	
	_	
In re:	8	
	Š	
2B Farms, a Texas General Partnership, et al.,	S	Case No. 23-50096-swe12
	8	Jointly Administered
Debtors.	Š	
	Š	

AgTexas Farm Credit Services, AgTexas, PCA, Thorlakson Diamond T Feeders, LP,	\$ \$
Plaintiffs, and	
Edward Dufurrena, et al.,	\$ \$
Intervenor-Plaintiffs,	\$ \$
v.	Adversary No. 24-02007-sweConsolidated Adversary Proceeding
Rabo AgriFinance, LLC, et al.,	§ §
Defendants.	
Kent Ries, Chapter 7 Trustee for the Bankruptcy Estates of McClain Feed Yard, Inc., McClain Farms, Inc., and 7M Cattle Feeders, Inc., Plaintiff, v. Community Financial Services Bank; HTLF Bank, Mechanics Bank, and Rabo AgriFinance, LLC, Defendants.	Adversary No. 24-02007-swe Consolidated Adversary Proceeding Adversary No. 24-02007-swe Adversary No. 24-02007-swe Consolidated Adversary Proceeding Adversary No. 24-02007-swe Consolidated Adversary Proceeding

HTLF Bank, as successor to First Bank & Trust,

Plaintiff, Counter-Defendant, and Cross-Claim Defendant,

v.

2B Farms, a Texas General Partnership, Terry M. Robinson, and Rebecca A. Robinson,

> Defendants, Counterclaim-Plaintiffs, Third-Party Plaintiffs and Third-Party Counterclaim Defendants,

v.

Rabo AgriFinance, LLC and Mechanics Bank,

Third-Party Defendants and, as to Rabo AgriFinance LLC only, Third-Party Counterclaim Plaintiff and Cross-Claim Plaintiff.

HTLF Bank, as successor to First Bank & Trust,

Plaintiff and Counter-Defendant,

v.

2B Farms, a Texas General Partnership, Terry M. Robinson, and Angela Robinson,

Defendants and Counter-Plaintiffs.

Adversary No. 24-02007-swe Consolidated Adversary Proceeding

End of Order

Agreed as to form:

BY: /s/ David L. LeBas (with permission)

David L. LeBas

State Bar No. 12098600

Michael S. Duncan

State Bar No. 24097628

NAMAN HOWELL SMITH & LEE, PLLC

8310 N. Capital of Texas Hwy., Suite 490

Austin, Texas 78731

Telephone: (512) 479-0300

Fax: (512) 474-1901

Email: dlebas@namanhowell.com Email: mduncan@namanhowell.com

Attorneys for Thorlakson Diamond T Feeders, LP, AgTexas Farm Credit Services and AgTexas PCA

BY: /s/ Amber S. Miller (with permission)

Amber S. Miller

State Bar No. 24050320

CRENSHAW, DUPREE & MILAM, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 1499

Lubbock, Texas 79408-1499 Telephone: (806) 762-5281

Fax: (806) 762-3510

Email: amiller@cdmlaw.com

Attorneys for Ridgefield Capital Group, Drew Phillips, Carraway Cattle, Robert Ellis, Barry Phillips, Big Seven Capital Partners, Richard Carraway

BY: <u>/s/ Timothy T. Pridmore (with permission)</u>

Timothy T. Pridmore

State Bar No. 00788224

Todd Johnston

State Bar No. 24050837

McWHORTER COBB & JOHNSON, LLP

PO Box 2547

Lubbock, Texas 79408 Telephone: (806) 762-0214

Fax: (806) 762-8014

Email: tpridmore@mcjllp.com Email: tjohnston@mcjllp.com

Attorneys for 2B Farms, a Texas General Partnership, Terry M. Robinson, Rebecca A. Robinson and Non-Debtor, Angela Robinson

Case 25-02005-swe Doc 97 Filed 09/04/25 Entered 09/04/25 09:26:10 Desc Main Document Page 7 of 10

BY: <u>/s/ Buffey Klein (with permission)</u>

Richard A. Illmer

State Bar No. 10388350

Buffey Klein

State Bar No. 24032515

HUSCH BLACKWELL, LLP

1900 N. Pearl Street, Suite 1800 Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 999-6100

Fax: (214) 999-6700

Email: rick.illmer@huschblackwell.com Email: buffey.klein@huschblackwell.com

Attorneys for Mechanics Bank

BY: <u>/s/ John Massouh (with permission)</u>

John Massouh

State Bar No. 24026866

SPROUSE SHRADER SMITH PLLC

701 S. Taylor, Suite 500

P.O. Box 15008

Amarillo, Texas 79105-5008 Telephone: (806) 468-3300

Fax: (806) 373-3454

Email: john.massouh@sprouselaw.com

and –

Abel Leal State Bar No. 24026989 The Leal Law Firm, LLC 14180 N. Dallas Parkway, Suite 300 Dallas, Texas 75254 Telephone: (214) 395-5325

Fax: (806) 364-2526 Email: abel@leal.law

Attorneys For Dennis Buss, Buss Family Trust, Eddie Bryant, Robert E. Gray, Ronnie Gray, Gray Brothers, Craig Sutton, Amy Sutton, Steve Ryan, Janice Lawhon, AJ Jacques Living Trust, Gungoll Cattle, LLC, Leah Gungoll, Morrison Café, LLC, Gary Lesh, Jan Lesh, Lesh Family Trust, Jared Lesh, Jordan Lesh, LLC, Joel Brookshire, Gene Brookshire Family, LP, Douglas Finley, Scarlet And Black Cattle, LLC, Bryan Blackman, Steve T Scott Farm, Inc., Scott Livestock Company, Inc., Arnold Braun Trust, Robert Braun, Jim Rininger, Robert Spring, Michael Evans, Miranda Evans, Charles Lockwood, Cole Lockwood, Sherle Lockwood, Nikki Lockwood, Lyndal Van Buskirk, Janet Van Buskirk, Colby Van Buskirk, Susan Van Buskirk, Jimmy Greer, Dustin Johnson and Dora Blackman

Case 25-02005-swe Doc 97 Filed 09/04/25 Entered 09/04/25 09:26:10 Desc Main Document Page 8 of 10

BY: <u>/s/ James D. Bradbury (with permission)</u>

James D. Bradbury State Bar No. 02814500

Kyle K. Weldon

State Bar No. 24097192

JAMES D. BRADBURY, PLLC

201 Main Street, Suite 600

Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Telephone: 817-339-1105

Fax: 817-886-3495

Email: jim@bradburycounsel.com Email: kyle@bradburycounsel.com

Attorneys for Priest Cattle Company, Ltd, Priest Victory Investment LLC, W. Robbie Russell Living Trust, and Eddie Stewart

BY: <u>/s/ John H. Lovell (with permission)</u>

John H. Lovell

State Bar No. 12609300

LOVELL, ISERN & FARABOUGH, LLP

112 SW 8th Ave., Suite 1000

Amarillo, Texas 79101

Telephone: (806) 373-1515

Email: john@lovell-law.net

Attorneys for HTLF Bank, as successor to First Bank & Trust

BY: <u>/s/ Michael R. Johnson (with permission)</u> Michael R. Johnson (admitted *pro hac vice*)

RAY QUINNEY & NEBEKER P.C.

36 South State Street, Suite 1400

Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Telephone: (801) 532-1500

Fax: (801) 532-7543

Email: mjohnson@rqn.com

Attorneys for Rabo AgriFinance LLC

Case 25-02005-swe Doc 97 Filed 09/04/25 Entered 09/04/25 09:26:10 Desc Main Document Page 9 of 10

BY: <u>/s/ Matthew S. Muckleroy (with permission)</u>

Matthew S. Muckleroy State Bar No. 24066796 CRAWFORD, WISHNEW & LANG PLLC 1700 Pacific Avenue, Suite 2390

Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone: (214) 817-4500

Fax (214) 602-6551

Email: mmuckleroy@cwl.law

Attorney for Shawn Ragland

BY: /s/ Aaron Kaufman (with permission)

Aaron Kaufman State Bar No. 24060067 GRAY REED LLP 1601 Elm St., Ste. 4600 Dallas, TX 75201

Telephone: (469) 320-6050 Email: akaufman@grayreed.com

- and -

Keith Larson (admitted *pro hac vice*) Morgan Pottinger McGarvey 401 S. Fourth St., Ste. 1200 Louisville, KY 40202

Telephone: (502) 560-6758 Email: kjl@mpmfirm.com

Attorneys for Community Financial Services Bank

Case 25-02005-swe Doc 97 Filed 09/04/25 Entered 09/04/25 09:26:10 Desc Main Document Page 10 of 10

BY: /s/ Hudson M. Jobe
Hudson M. Jobe
State Bar No. 24041189
JOBE LAW PLLC
6060 North Central Expressway, Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75206
Telephone: (214) 807-0563
Email: hjobe@jobelawpllc.com

– and –

Alan Dabdoub
State Bar No. 24056836
adabdoub@lynnllp.com
LYNN PINKER HURST & SCHWEGMANN LLP
2100 Ross Avenue, Suite 2700
Dallas, Texas 75201
Telephone: 214-981-3800

Fax: 214-981-3839

Email: adabdoub@lynnllp.com

SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE TRUSTEE